

# Soil Business Area Analysis Group (SBAAG) Activities and Progress

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## ABSTRACT

The function of the Soil Business Area Analysis Group (SBAAG) is to act as a forum to analyze and facilitate the integration of new soil survey technical and operational processes. This includes helping to analyze the coordination among the National Centers and NCSS partners in order to assure that research, development, and delivery of soil survey products and services follow an overall system plan. SBAAG's principal goal is improving the quality, the delivery of soil information, and the process by which that information is collected, managed, and presented. SBAAG provides recommendations to the National Soil Survey Division leadership on issues related to the soil survey business area.

One of the most important charges made to SBAAG is the definition of an integrated soils information system in conjunction with the agency Information Systems Plan. This work is presently carried out the following Ad Hoc teams:

- Textual Content Management (manuscripts, manuals, handbooks, etc.)
- Dynamic Soil Properties
- NCSS Cooperator Soil Characterization Laboratory Data Assemblage
- Digital Soil Mapping Methods and Standards
- Development of a National Soil Geospatial Database (NSGD)
- Ecological Classification and Plant Data in the National Soil Information System (NASIS)
- Upgrade of Soil Survey Scheduling/Project Management in NASIS
- Delivery of National, State-wide, and regional SSURGO datasets
- Stabilization of software development environment (version control)
- GPS accuracy standards for Soil Survey

Important input is provided by Ad Hoc advisory members. These members can include the following: MLRA Project Leader, Resource Soil Scientist, NASIS User Group, NSSC Forester, NSSC Range Scientist, NSSC Agronomist, NCGC Remote Sensing Laboratories, Soil Marketing Advisory Group, U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), National Park Service (NPS), and others.

SBAAG membership is provided at  
<http://soils.usda.gov/partnerships/sbaag/directory.html> .

An overview of current SBAAG sponsored activities and progress is presented.

## REFERENCES

Soil Business Area Analysis Group web page  
<http://www.soils.usda.gov/partnerships/sbaag/>

NCSS web page  
<http://soils.usda.gov/partnerships/ncss/>

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